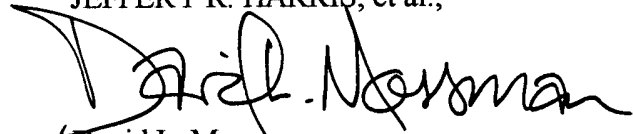


The claims remaining in the application are 1 through 16 and 18 through 40.

REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments presented above place the claims in condition for allowance. Consideration and allowance of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully reminded of the duty to indicate allowable subject matter. The Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' attorney at the number below for any reason, especially any reason that may help advance the prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
JEFFERY R. HARRIS, et al.,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Mossman", is written over the typed name.

David L. Mossman
Registration No. 29,570
Attorney for Applicants
Telephone No. 512/219-4026
Facsimile No. 512/219-4036

Madan, Mossman & Sriram, P.C.
2603 Augusta, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77057-5638